

Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC)

Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)

Virginia Emergency Response Team (VERT)

SEVERE WEATHER - FLOODING

SITUATION REPORT # 1

Operation Period - 1500 Hours November 29, 2005 to 1500 Hours November 30, 2005

SUMMARY

Heavy rains impacted Central and Western VA 29 November causing flooding in several localities. As a result, localities evacuated residents, opened shelters, and declared a local emergency. No injuries or deaths reported at this time. The major impact appears to be means of ingress and egress to private residences.

EXECUTIVE ACTION

EOC Activation: The Virginia EOC is at Increased Readiness condition and augmented with additional staffing.

State of Emergency: A State of Emergency has not been declared.

Protective Actions: Local Emergency Declared:
Augusta County reportedly declared a local emergency on 29 November at 1355 hours. Rockbridge County reportedly declared a local emergency on 29 November at 1525 hours.

Local EOC Activation: Nelson County opened EOC at 1150 hours on 29 November and closed EOC at 0700 hours on 30 November. Rockbridge County opened EOC at 1530 hours on 29 November and closed 1800 hours on 30 November.

Evacuations:
Augusta, Nelson, and Rockingham Counties conducted evacuations in impacted areas.

Shelters Opened: None

Schools Closed: None

WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy across the state today with high temperatures in the low 50's to low 60's. Overnight temperatures low 40's to upper 20's. Winds will be north to northwest at 5-15 mph. There is a 10% chance of precipitation across the state.

Moderate flooding is forecast for South Fork of the Shenandoah River at Front Royal. Flood stage is 12 feet. Forecast crest is between 13.6 to 14.6 feet midnight December 1. Minor Flooding is forecast for the lower James River Basin including Palmyra. Flood stage is 17 feet. River crested at 19.6 feet at 3 PM November 30. Minor Flooding is forecast for the Middle James River Basin including Bremo Bluff. Flood stage is 19 feet. Forecast crest is expected to be 23 feet on December 1.

OPERATIONS SECTION

State Warning Point: Coordinate information exchange with affected localities. Monitoring water levels along the Shenandoah and James Rivers in anticipation of minor to moderate flooding, mostly in uninhabited areas.

Local Liaison: VDEM Local Support Services Division Regions Three and Six Coordinators are assisting local officials in impacted localities with Initial Damage Assessment.

EMERGENCY SERVICES BRANCH

- ESF 4 – Firefighting:** Virginia Department of Forestry (VDOF)
Two high clearance 4-wheel drive vehicles were placed on stand-by to assist with evacuations, if necessary, in impacted areas.
- ESF 9 – Search & Rescue:** Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
Swift Water Rescue and Evacuation Teams comprised of Virginia State Police, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, and Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation Officers, were placed on stand-by status for possible rescue operations in Augusta County on 29 November; however, the request was later cancelled.
- ESF 13 - Public Safety & Security:** Virginia State Police (VSP)
Assisted with traffic control and road closures in impacted localities.

INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORT BRANCH

- ESF 1 – Transportation:** Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT)
VDOT reports a total of 112 secondary roads closed in the Commonwealth as of 1100 hours 30 November. Localities affected and number of road closures as follows:
Albemarle – 4; Culpeper– 7; Fauquier – 1; Greene – 4; Madison – 4; Orange – 2; Rappahannock – 5; Lynchburg/Amherst – 3; Nelson – 5; Carroll – 1; Floyd – 2; Franklin – 1; Montgomery – 1; Augusta – 8; Bath – 1; Clarke – 3; Frederick – 10; Highland – 1; Page – 6; Rockbridge – 2; Rockingham – 11; Shenandoah – 26; Warren – 4.
Woodfin Road – State Route 666 in Amherst County will be closed for several days due to 100-foot section washout. Detour routes are being established.

LOGISTICS SECTION

- ESF 7 – Resource Support:** Virginia Department of Emergency Management (VDEM)
The VEOC is ready to coordinate requests for assistance from the localities.
- LOCAL ACTIVITIES**
- Localities are conducting Initial Damage Assessments (IDAs). No major damage reported by localities at this time.
- Amherst County reports three families cannot leave their residences due to access problems. Early IDA reports 12 homes affected.
- Nelson County reports no damages to homes.
- Augusta County is inspecting the Mill Creek Dam. Water overtopped the spillway only this morning and the locality is concerned about structural integrity of the dam. Numerous private roads and bridges washed out. Minor flood damage is reported to some residences. IDA expected to be complete on 1 December. Stuarts Draft Elementary School is a designated shelter location, but is not activated at this time.
- Rockingham County indicates damage to private roads and bridges.
- Rockbridge County reports a temporary private bridge on Rattler Lane was washed out, affecting approximately 15 families. This is the temporary replacement installed following the collapse of a 4-ton bridge earlier this year when a concrete truck struck the bridge. Huge trees fell in the creek bed in South River. Minor flooding is reported in residential basements and crawlspaces.